ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

OF THE

THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

SHELBY MISSIONARY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH

SUMMER HILL BAPTIST CHURCH,

SHELBY COUNTY, ALABAMA,

OCTOBER 11th and 13th, 1884.

OFFICERS:

W. C. CLEVELAND.....Moderator.....Montevallo, Ala.
C. W. O'HARA.....Clerk.....Wilsonville, Ala.
H. C. MOSS.....Treasurer.....Calera, Ala.

The next session will be held with Montevallo Church, commencing on Wednesday after the second Sabbath in October, 1885.

SELMA, ALA.:
FROM THE PRESS OF THE SELMA PRINTING COMPANY.
1884.

MINUTES.

On Saturday, the 11th day of October, 1884, the Shelby Association convened with Summer Hill Church.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder Geo. T. Lee, from 1st Corinthians 15:58.

After a short intermission, the delegates assembled and were called to order by the former Moderator, I. U. Wilkes.

The Moderator read the 100th Psalm.

Prayer was offered by Brother E. A. Burns.

Adjourned for thirty minutes for dinner.

On re-assembling, the letters from the churches were called for and read by Brethren J. C. McKellar, E. A. Burns and J. M. Langston, and the names of the delegates enrolled as follows:

FIRST DISTRICT.

Cahaba Valley—Not represented.
Calera—J. M. Langston, J. C. McElroy and H. C. Moss.
Center Hill—J. W. M. Carter and Wm. Carter.
Dogwood Grove—Wm. Acker, *J D. Mills and Leroy Lovelady.
Montevallo—H. C. Reynolds, R. W. Nolen and *W. C. Cleveland.
Mars' Hill—Letter and funds.
Macedonia—J. G. Harris.
New Antioch—James Booth.
Six Mile—M. J. Pratt, O. W. Ward and W. E. Fancher.
Helena—*Geo. T. Lee and W. P. McKellar.

SECOND DISTRICT.

Bethesda—*W. W. Armstrong, *J. F. Parker and R. A. O'Hara,
Beaver Creek—Not represented
Columbiana—W. M. Rhodes and W. G. Parker.
Hopewell—T. J. Wells, W. M. Armstrong and S. J. May.
Liberty—*T. P. Holcombe and L. R. Kendrick.
Mt. Calvary—Nathaniel Thomas, A. Mooney, N. M. Thomas and John Moore.
Rocky Ridge—*J. W. Wood, J. R. Davis and Franklin Davis.
Summer Hill—*C. W. O'Hara, †M. E. B. Jones and W. H. Allen.
(Ordained ministers marked thus *. Licentiates marked thus †.)

The regular order of business was suspended and petitionary letters were called for when a letter was presented by J. W. Jones, A. H. Merrill and C. M. Williams from Bethlehem Church. (Said church being a member of the Mulberry Association.)

Whereupon the following resolution was offered:

Resolved, That said church be received by agreeing to produce a letter from the Mulberry Association at our next session.

2. That said church be required to subscribe to the Abstract of Principles of this Association.

The resolution was adopted and the church received.

Also, a letter was presented by James Lucus and Rufus Lucus from Enon Church, which being found orthodox was received.

The Moderator extended the right hand of fellowship to the delegates from the two churches.

Officers elected: W. C. Cleveland, Moderator; C. W. O'Hara, Clerk.

Adopted the Order of Business of the last session for the present.

RECEIVED CORRESPONDENCE.

From Coosa River Association—Milton Henderson.

Mulberry Association—R M. Honeycutt, Isaac Lawhorn, J. M. Hand, J. A. Skaggs, E. A. Burns and J. E. Champion, with letters and minutes.

Canaan Association—J. P. Massey.

All of whom were cordially received and welcomed among us.

RETURNED CORRESPONDENCE.

To Mulberry Association—Geo. T. Lee and J. Wood.

Canaan—Geo. T. Lee.

Coosa River—J. F. Parker, N. Thomas, J. W. Wood, E. B. Teague and C. W. O'Hara.

DELEGATES TO STATE CONVENTION.

W. C. Cleveland, C. W. O'Hara, Geo. T. Lee. J. C. McElroy, H. C. Reynolds, J. M Langston. W. P. McKellar, J. D. Mills, W. H. Allen and M. E. B. Jones.

APPOINTED COMMITTEES.

On Devotion—Pastor and deacons of Summer Hill Church, with H. C. Moss and J. W. Wood.

On Finance—M E. B. Jones, H. C. Moss and W. G. Parker.

On Documents—J. F. Parker, Nathaniel Thomas and J. W. Wood.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

On Education—J. M. Langston, J. C. McElroy and J. D. Mills.

On Missions—W. P. McKellar, H. W. Bowers and Geo. T. Lee.

On Aged and Infirm Ministers—J. C. McElroy, W. W. Brame and Nathaniel Thomas.

On Temperance—I. U. Wilkes, H. C. Reynolds and A. D. Lawhon.

On Ministerial Education—E. B. Teague, Geo. T. Lee and W. P. McKellar.

The Committee on Sabbath Schools reported.

The report was discussed by I. U. Wilkes, J. C. McElroy, W. P. McKellar, C. W. O'Hara, W. H. Allen, Geo. T. Lee and J. D. Mills, after which the report was recommitted and J. C. McElroy added to the Committee, and the Committee required to report Monday.

The report on Education was read and discussed by W. P. McKellar, and W. C. Cleveland addressed the Association in the interest of the Board of Ministerial Education; after which the report was recommitted, and the Committee required to report at 10 o'clock A. M. Monday.

The Committee on Devotion reported that R. M. Honeycutt would preach at night. Prayer meeting at 9:30 Sunday morning, conducted by E. A. Burns. Missionary sermon at 11 A. M. by W. C. Cleveland. Preaching at 2:30 P. M. by I. U. Wilkes; Sunday night by W. W. Kirkland and J. D. Mills.

Prayer was offered by R. M. Honeycutt.

Adjourned to 9 A. M. Monday.

SUNDAY.

OCTOBER 12, 1884.

The services were conducted in the order prescribed by the Committee on Devotion. The services were attended by large and attentive congregations, and it is hoped that much good will be the result of the day's labor.

MONDAY.

OCTOBER 13.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment.

Prayer was offered by J. D. Mills.

Minutes of Saturday were read and approved.

Invited visiting ministers to seats.

The Committee on Temperance reported.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

We, your Committee, would respectfully report: We have noticed with pleasure the advance of temperance reform, as manifested in several States of the Union through local option laws existing in said States. Our sister Baptist State, Georgia, stands three-fourths under local option. Other States have been able to adopt or modify their constitutions forbidding the traffic in their bounds; all of which we endorse, and recommend the churches of this Association to vigorously press the onward march in our own State until the traffic which has caused so much strife, crime and suffering among unoffending mothers and children shall be driven from the land, and only be known as a vice of the past. We also look with fond anticipation to the efforts now being made in a National form, bidding the laborers Godspeed; praying his blessings in richest form to crown their every effort until the Nation shall be released entirely from the demoralizing and soul-destroying influence of King Alcohol. And to this end we pledge ourselves to pray and labor.

Respectfully submitted,

J. C. MCELROY, Chairman.

The following amendment was offered by W. H. Allen:

Resolved, That we recommend the churches of this Association not to retain in fellowship any member who makes a practice of visiting and patronizing the dram shops.

The report, with the amendment, was discussed by J. C. McElroy, W. H. Allen, Geo. T. Lee, W. P. McKellar, I. U. Wilkes, and adopted.

REPORT ON AGED AND INFIRM MINISTERS.

The report on Aged and Infirm Ministers was read, and discussed by W. P. McKellar, W. C. Cleveland and J. C. McElroy, and was then tabled until the Committee on Missions reported, which was set for this hour.

The Committee on Missions reported.

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

These missions are in China, Italy, Brazil and Mexico. Carried on in Mexico by co-operation with the Northern Board.

The China Mission is prosperous, addition of converts being greater in proportion to number of churches than in the United States. A large number of missionaries are just now going out to recruit this mission. Italy, Brazil and Mexico are Catholic countries, but many of these Catholics are growing lukewarm, and ready to open their ears to Protestant and Baptist teaching—the teaching of the Bible—so long withheld from them. This is conspicuously so of Mexico. The Mexican people are becoming exceedingly anxious to have their daughters educated. Females there have been kept in ignorance of design by priestly influence. So anxious are they, that in one State the Superintendent of Education and other wealthy and intelligent parties have turned over to our Board of Foreign Missions valuable and costly property, on the condition of our setting up and conducting a first-class female school in the buildings, with which is to be connected an orphanage. The trust has been accepted, and the Superintendent of Schools made the principal of the institution. This school will very much enlarge Baptist influence. And in that view of the matter, American Baptists have contributed $20,000 to fit up the institution God has also greatly blessed our infant churches in that region. Indeed, a wide and effectual door is evidently opened to our evangelist in that part of Mexico. The fields are white for the harvest; let us enter in and reap. At no distant day this bewildered and priest-ridden people, it is believed, will be given to our Master for an inheritance.

The facts and statistics relating to our missions may be found in the reports of the secretaries to the late General Convention. Home Missions and State Missions are equally successful. The addition to the number of missionaries increases largely every year. The liberalities of the churches are improving, and it is only necessary for the churches to thoroughly inform themselves on the subject, to make everything satisfactory.

That part of the work pertaining to ministerial education is especially commended to the consideration of this body.

E. B. TEAGUE, Chairman.

The report was discussed by I. U. Wilkes; and W. C. Cleveland, as representative of the State Board, addressed the Association in the interest of the Board, setting forth the different objects fostered by the Board, after which the delegates from the churches agreed to try to raise 30 cents per capita in their respective churches.

Brother Cleveland further addressed the Association in behalf of the Board of Ministerial Education, showing that the strictest economy is being observed by the Board in the prosecution of this work, and the most scrutinizing and careful means have been devised to protect the denomination against imposition.

A collection was then taken for ministerial education for, amount of which see report of Committee on Finance.

Report on Missions adopted.

The report on Aged and Infirm Ministers was taken from the table and adopted, as follows :

We, your Committee, find no report on this subject heretofore, and, therefore, think it well to call attention to the fact that this subject has engaged the attention of our State Convention for some years past. And at the Convention preceding the last the collection and distribution of funds for the relief of aged and infirm ministers and the widows and orphans of deceased ministers who need aid, was turned over to our State Mission Board. And by examination of the finance report of the Board we find that they received contributions amounting to $576.10 for this purpose, and have paid the following amounts :

To 16 Indigent ministers	$335 13
To 9 Widows of deceased ministers	203 95
Total expended	$539 08

during the past conventional year. And the amount of $1,000.00 is asked for by the Board for this year for this object. Your Committee would urge upon this Association the importance of this subject. In fact, it is, in our opinion, second to none. It is a duty we, as Christians, owe to those who have spent their lives in self-sacrifice and toil, giving up all for the Master's service and the good of mankind, and should, when disabled by old age, disease or death, so as to be unable to provide for themselves or those dear to them, be provided for by us. In consideration of these facts we urge upon the churches of this Association the necessity of promptly giving the desired aid to our State Mission Board.

Respectfully submitted,

H. C. Reynolds, Chairman.

J. H. R. Carden was recognized as a minister from the Cahaba Valley Association.

The report of the Committee on Sunday Schools was read. A minority report was also offered. The vote being taken upon the reports the minority report was placed before the body for discussion. This report was discussed by W. P. McKellar, I. U. Wilkes, W. H. Allen, J. H. R. Carden, W. W. Kirkland, Geo. T. Lee, J. C. McElroy and H. C. Reynolds. After several amendments were offered and lost, the report was amended by striking out that part of the report which provided for the call of a Sunday School Convention, and adopted. But afterwards the report was reconsidered and amended by re-inserting the words stricken out, and adopted.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We, your Committee on Sunday Schools, submit the following report :

1. We recommend that an Executive Committee of five members of this Association be appointed to superintend the Sunday School work of this Association, whose duties it shall be to endeavor to organize and perpetuate schools as follows:

Six Mile, Cahaba Valley, Montevallo and Enon—Howard Griggs.

New Antioch, Macedonia and Dogwood Grove—T. B. Dison.

Bethlehem, Beaver Creek, Hopewell, Rocky Ridge and Columbiana—W. M. Rhodes.

Calera, Center Hill, Helena and Mar's Hill—James M. Langston.

Summer Hill, Mt. Calvary, Liberty and Bethesda—J. C. Lyon.

2. We recommend that these brethren select a chairman among themselves and that they call a Sunday School Convention on or about the first fifth Sunday after the month of February next. That they furnish the superintendent of each school with a blank form for a statistical report and require each report made to them; and that they, through their chairman, bring such reports of statistics before the next session of this body with other information beneficial to this work.

C. W. O'HARA, Chairman.

The report on Education was re-read, and having been previously discussed, was adopted.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

The Committee on Education beg leave to submit the following:

The importance of education is almost universally admitted. The admission, however, is a sort of half-hearted one, in most instances just as the man of the world says that he believes that the Bible is the word of God. It is not strong enough to compel action.

In every good work, in church or State, ignorance is the hydraheaded monster to be combatted. It is one of Satan's most powerful instruments. No wonder then that education is such a favorite theme with the press, the forum and the pulpit.

One great difficulty to be overcome seems to be to arouse the people to united and continued action. A spasmodic enthusiasm may be excited in any locality, but weariness in well doing, contrary to the Scripture injunction, soon renders it ineffective.

To those wishing to give their sons and daughters the benefit of higher education, your Committee cannot commend too highly the Howard, the Judson, the Central, and the Baptist High Schools in Shelby county. If the Baptists of Alabama would do their whole duty in this direction these grand old institutions would bless the land with light and knowledge. But this body is more directly concerned in ministerial education. Within the past few years quite a revival has sprung up in this department of Christian labor. The State Convention has organized an Educational Board with headquarters at Birmingham; Hon. R. H. Sterrett, President, and T. L. Hudgens, Treasurer. All young ministers wishing to be assisted in securing an education must apply to this Board. In establishing the Board, the Convention said: "That the Board shall render assistance to such young men as shall come commended by their churches and shall pass a satisfactory examination before the Board as to their fitness for the ministery." Your Committee would urge upon the Association the necessity for liberal contributions to this cause.

Respectfully submitted,

W. P. MCKELLAR, Chairman.

The Committee on Documents reported.

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS.

The Committee on Documents would report that in examining the documents coming into our hands we find that Bethesda Church has ordained Brother J. F. Parker to preach the gospel; Dogwood Grove Church has licensed Brother S. S. Carlton to preach; Calera Church asks for another year's time on the amount pledged for colportage fund at the last session, giving as a reason for asking such indulgence, heavy expenses in church building. We recommend that said request be granted.

Montevallo Church very respectfully asks that the next session of this Association be held with her, which request we recommend be granted.

We would recommend the *Alabama Baptist*, our State paper, to the patronage of our brethren; also *Kind Words*, as a most excellent Sunday School paper.

Respectfully submitted,

J. F. PARKER, Chairman.

Report on Finance was read and recommitted.

On motion of Geo. T. Lee, Brother W. H. Connell was made the beneficiary of this Association—the Association agreeing to provide for his support at the Harpersville High School, during the next year. Whereupon a collection was taken, the amount of which will be found in the report of the Committee on Finance.

After prayer adjourned for one hour for dinner.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Association met.

Prayer by W. W. Armstrong.

Resolved, That the amount collected on Sabbath be equally divided between State, Home and Foreign Missions.

On motion of H. C. Reynolds, C. W. O'Hara was appointed to reach the introductory sermon at the next session; E. B. Teague, alternate. E. B. Teague to preach the missionary sermon; Geo. T. Lee, alternate.

On motion of Geo. T. Lee, the time of meeting was changed to Wednesday after the second Sunday in October, 1885.

On motion of W. P. McKellar, it was ordered that the Clerk have 430 copies of the minutes printed, reserve 30 copies for correspondence, and that he receive $15.00 for his services.

On motion of J. D. Mills—

Resolved, That we recommend the churches to engage in divine service on the 25th of December.

Appointed a committee consisting of C. W. O'Hara, H. C. Reynolds and J. D. Mills, to correspond with the State Board in any matter that may be for the good of the Master's cause.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

CHURCHES.	AMOUNT SENT UP.						AMOUNT FORWARDRD DURING PAST YEAR.				
	For Minutes.	Asssociational Purposes.	State Missions.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Colportage.	State Missions.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Colportage.	Ministerial Education.
Calera	$1 00	$ 50	$1 45	$1 45	$1 45	.....	....	....	.....	.....	
Center Hill	75	30	.....	50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Dogwood Grove	1 50	25	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Enon	1 00	50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Montevallo	1 50	50	.....	.....	.....	.....	$5 51	$5 51	$5 51	.....	$20 00
Mars' Hill	1 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	$5 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Macedonia	50	1 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
New Antioch	50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Six Mile	1 75	75	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Helena	1 50	.....	3 35	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	$10 00	
Bethesda	1 50	.....	.....	.....	2 30	5 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Bethlehem	1 50	1 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Columbiana	1 50	.....	.....	.....	2 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5 00
Hopewell	1 50	50	.....	.....	2 00	10 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Liberty	2 50	1 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Mt. Calvary	2 50	.....	.....	.....	3 20	.....	.....	.....	.....	5 00	
Rocky Ridge	1 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	5 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Summer Hill	1 25	75	1 10	.....	1 15	10 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	
	$24 75	$ 8 05	$ 5 90	$ 1 95	$12 10	$35 00	$ 5 51	$ 5 51	$ 5 51	$15 00	$25 00

Collected on Sunday for Missions.....$ 12 65
Amount pledged for ministerial education..... 86 00
Amount collected for ministerial education..... 3 75

$ 102 40

Respectfully submitted,

M. E. B. JONES,
H. C. MOSS,
W. G. PARKER,
Committee.

The report was adopted.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

H. C. MOSS, Treasurer,
In account with Shelby Association.

DEBITS.

To amount received from former Treasurer.....$ 7 05
To amount received from Finance Committee 104 15

Total.....$ 111 20

CREDITS.

By amount paid for printing minutes	$ 13	00	
" " Clerk's fee	15	00	
" " T. M. Bailey for State Missions	12	00	
" " T. M. Bailey for Home Missions	5	16	
" " T. M. Bailey for Foreign Missions	16	31	
" " T. M. Bailey for colportage	35	00	
" Postal expenses		20	
Balance in treasury	14	53	$ 111 20

RESOLUTION OF THANKS.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association are eminently due and are hereby tendered to the good people of Summer Hill and surrounding community for the kindness and hospitality which the Association has received at their hands during the sitting of this body.

The Association, after singing a hymn, extending the parting hand, with prayer by Elder T. P. Holcombe, adjourned to meet at the time and place designated.

W. C. CLEVELAND, Moderator.

C. W. O'HARA, Clerk.

TABLE OF CHURCHES AND STATISTICS.

	CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	POSTOFFICE.	Sabbath of Meeting.	Baptized.	Received by Letter.	Restored.	Voucher.	Under Watchcare	Dismissed by Letter.	Excluded.	Deceased.	Membership.
FIRST DISTRICT.	Cahaba Valley	Not represented											
	Calera	W. C. Cleveland	Calera	3	1	1				2			29
	Center Hill	J. D. Mills	Calera	2	7	5		1					19
	Dogwood Grove	J. D. Mills	Montevallo	2		1	1		2	11	1	1	103
	Enon	T. B. Dison	Montevallo	2	4	6							29
	Montevallo	W. C. Cleveland	Montevallo	2–4		11				2			48
	Mars' Hill	Geo. T. Lee	Brock's Gap	3						10	2	1	51
	Macedonia	T. B. Dison	Montevallo	1	3	6			1				28
	New Antioch	T. B. Dison	Montevallo	4		1				5			60
	Six Mile	J. M. McCord	Six Mile	2						1		1	56
	Helena	Geo. T. Lee	Helena	2	4	5				8	1	2	42
SECOND DISTRICT.	Bethesda	C. W. O'Hara	Wilsonville	1	12	6	7					1	63
	Bethlehem	J. C. Cooper	Shelby Iron Works	4	8	1				3		2	66
	Beaver Creek	Not represented											
	Columbiana	E. B. Teague	Columbiana	2						1			25
	Hopewell	C. W O'Hara	Shelby Iron Works	3	2	3			4				41
	Liberty	T. P. Holcombe	Columbiana	1	2		2			2		7	129
	Mt. Calvary	C. W. O'Hara	"	2	5		3			1	2	1	68
	Rocky Ridge	J. W. Wood	"	4	1								33
	Summer Hill	C W. O'Hara	"	4	3	1				2			44
					50	48	13	1	7	48	6	16	934

NOTE BY THE PUBLISHERS.—The brethren have been so liberal toward us this year in giving us the minutes of so many associations to print, that it has been impossible for us to get them out as promptly as we desired, and as the clerks, no doubt, expected. We were prepared to do a large amount of minute printing, but not so much as we received. We had to purchase an additional supply of type to meet the demand. It reached us too late, however, to enable us to get the minutes out promptly this year. We make this explanation that the blame for delay may rest upon us, and not upon the clerks. We are grateful to the large number of associations that have favored us with their printing, and hope they will all patronize us again next year, when we will be prepared to serve them more promptly.—SELMA PRINTING COMPANY.

THE ALABAMA BAPTIST,

SELMA, ALABAMA.

THERE is no more important interest fostered by the Baptists of Alabama than their Denominational Paper, THE ALABAMA BAPTIST. It is earnestly hoped that every Baptist in the State will not only take the paper himself, but do all he can to induce others to take it.

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Extra copy one year free to person sending five names and	7 50

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